

111TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6518

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to study the feasibility of more widespread use of in-vehicle technology to prevent alcohol-impaired driving, to require a Federal motor vehicle safety standard related to rollover prevention and crash mitigation, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 13, 2010

Mr. RUSH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to study the feasibility of more widespread use of in-vehicle technology to prevent alcohol-impaired driving, to require a Federal motor vehicle safety standard related to rollover prevention and crash mitigation, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. DEFINITION.**

4       As used in this Act, the term “Secretary” means the  
5       Secretary of Transportation, acting through the Adminis-  
6       trator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administra-  
7       tion.

1 **TITLE I—IN-VEHICLE ALCOHOL**  
2 **DETECTION DEVICE RESEARCH**

3 **SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This title may be cited as the “Research of Alcohol  
5 Detection Systems for Stopping Alcohol-related Fatalities  
6 Everywhere Act of 2010” or the “ROADS SAFE Act of  
7 2010”.

8 **SEC. 102. DRIVER ALCOHOL DETECTION SYSTEM RE-**  
9 **SEARCH.**

10 (a) RESEARCH.—The Secretary shall carry out a col-  
11 laborative research effort to continue to explore the feasi-  
12 bility and the potential benefits of, and the public policy  
13 challenges associated with, more widespread deployment  
14 of in-vehicle technology to prevent alcohol-impaired driv-  
15 ing.

16 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date  
17 of the enactment of this Act and for each of fiscal years  
18 2011 through 2015, the Secretary shall submit an annual  
19 report to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the  
20 House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-  
21 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate—

22 (1) describing progress in carrying out the col-  
23 laborative research effort; and

1           (2) including an accounting for the use of Fed-  
2       eral funds obligated or expended in carrying out that  
3       effort.

4   **SEC. 103. DEFINITIONS.**

5       In this title:

6           (1) **ALCOHOL-IMPAIRED DRIVING.**—The term  
7       “alcohol-impaired driving” means operation of a  
8       motor vehicle (as defined in section 30102(a)(6) of  
9       title 49, United States Code) by an individual whose  
10      blood alcohol content is at or above the legal limit.

11          (2) **LEGAL LIMIT.**—The term “legal limit”  
12      means a blood alcohol concentration of 0.08 percent  
13      or greater (as specified by section 163 of title 23,  
14      United States Code) or such other percentage limita-  
15      tion as may be established by applicable Federal,  
16      State, or local law.

17   **SEC. 104. EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.**

18       Nothing in this title shall be construed to modify or  
19      otherwise affect any Federal, State, or local government  
20      law, civil or criminal, with respect to the operation of a  
21      motor vehicle.

## **TITLE II—SAFETY AND TRANSPARENCY**

### **SEC. 201. COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE ROLLOVER PRE- VENTION AND CRASH MITIGATION.**

(a) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall initiate a rulemaking proceeding pursuant to section 30111 of title 49, United States Code, to prescribe or amend a Federal motor vehicle safety standard to reduce commercial motor vehicle rollover and loss of control crashes and mitigate deaths and injuries associated with such crashes for air-braked truck tractors and motorcoaches with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 26,000 pounds.

(b) REQUIRED PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.—The rulemaking proceeding initiated under subsection (a) shall establish standards to reduce the occurrence of rollovers consistent with stability enhancing technologies that address both rollovers and loss-of-control crashes.

(c) DEADLINE.—The Secretary shall issue a final rule under subsection (a) not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act.

### **SEC. 202. STUDY OF CRASH DATA COLLECTION.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue a report regarding the quality of data collected through

1 the National Automotive Sampling System, including the  
2 Special Crash Investigations, and recommendations for  
3 improvements to this data collection program. The report  
4 shall include information regarding—

5 (1) the analysis and conclusions the National  
6 Highway Traffic Safety Administration can reach  
7 based on the amount of data collected in a given  
8 year, and the additional analysis and conclusions it  
9 could reach if more crash investigations were con-  
10 ducted each year;

11 (2) the number of investigations per year that  
12 would allow for optimal data analysis and crash in-  
13 formation;

14 (3) the results of a comprehensive review of the  
15 data elements collected from each crash to determine  
16 if additional data should be collected; which review  
17 shall include input from interested parties, such as  
18 suppliers, automakers, safety advocates, the medical  
19 community and research organizations; and

20 (4) the resources that would be necessary for  
21 the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration  
22 to implement these recommendations.

23 (b) SUBMISSION OF REPORT.—The report shall be  
24 submitted to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of  
25 the House of Representatives and to the Committee on

1 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate  
2 upon completion.

3 **SEC. 203. NHTSA HOTLINE FOR MANUFACTURER, DEALER,**  
4 **AND MECHANIC PERSONNEL.**

5 The Secretary shall—

6 (1) establish a means by which mechanics, pas-  
7 senger motor vehicle dealership personnel, and pas-  
8 senger motor vehicle manufacturer personnel may  
9 contact the National Highway Traffic Safety Admin-  
10 istration directly and confidentially regarding poten-  
11 tial passenger motor vehicle safety defects; and

12 (2) publicize the means for contacting the Na-  
13 tional Highway Traffic Safety Administration in a  
14 manner that targets mechanics, passenger motor ve-  
15 hicle dealership personnel, and manufacturer per-  
16 sonnel.

17 **SEC. 204. HONORS RECRUITMENT PROGRAM.**

18 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish,  
19 within the National Highway Traffic Safety Administra-  
20 tion, an honors program for engineering students, com-  
21 puter science students, and other students interested in  
22 vehicle safety that will enable such students to train with  
23 engineers and other safety officials for a career in vehicle  
24 safety. The Secretary is authorized to provide a stipend  
25 to students during their participation in the program.

1 (b) TARGETED STUDENTS.—The Secretary shall de-  
 2 velop a plan to target and make an aggressive outreach  
 3 to recruit the top 10 percent of science, technology, engi-  
 4 neering, and mathematics students attending—

5 (1) 1890 Land Grant Institutions (as defined in  
 6 section 2 of the Agricultural Research, Extension,  
 7 and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C.  
 8 7061));

9 (2) Predominantly Black Institutions (as de-  
 10 fined in section 318 of the Higher Education Act of  
 11 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059e));

12 (3) Tribal Colleges or Universities (as defined  
 13 in section 316(b) of the Higher Education Act of  
 14 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1059c(b))); and

15 (4) Hispanic-Serving Institutions (as defined in  
 16 section 502(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965  
 17 (20 U.S.C. 1101a)).

18 **SEC. 205. PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF EARLY WARNING DATA.**

19 Section 30166(m) of title 49, United States Code, is  
 20 amended—

21 (1) in paragraph (3)(A), by striking clause (ii)  
 22 and inserting the following:

23 “(ii) customer satisfaction campaigns,  
 24 customer advisories, recalls, consumer  
 25 complaints, warranty claims, field reports,

1 technical service bulletins, or other activity  
2 involving the repair or replacement of  
3 motor vehicles or motor vehicle equip-  
4 ment.”; and

5 (2) in paragraph (4), by striking subparagraph  
6 (C) and inserting the following:

7 “(C) DISCLOSURE.—The information pro-  
8 vided to the Secretary pursuant to this sub-  
9 section shall be disclosed publicly unless exempt  
10 from disclosure under section 552(b) of title 5.  
11 The Secretary shall administer this subsection  
12 with a presumption in favor of maximum public  
13 availability of information. The following types  
14 of information shall presumptively not be ex-  
15 empt from disclosure under section 552(b) of  
16 title 5:

17 “(i) Vehicle safety defect information  
18 related to incidents involving death or in-  
19 jury.

20 “(ii) Aggregated numbers of property  
21 damage claims.

22 “(iii) Aggregated numbers of con-  
23 sumer complaints related to potential vehi-  
24 cle defects.”.

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